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Queries for February 1991

We would like to thank the following for their contributions to this issue :

Louise Smith-Edenton, N.C.	Margaret O. Webster-Greensboro, N.C.
Jeanne O'Neal-Edenton, N.C.	Doris H. Sauls - Raleigh, N.C.
Myrla Marrow-Roper, N.C.	Sylvia Whitford - Plymouth, N.C.
Eugene Chesson-Prescott, Arizona	Catherine A. Kastle - Jacksonville, N.C.

The Editors reserve the right to edit materials submitted for publication.

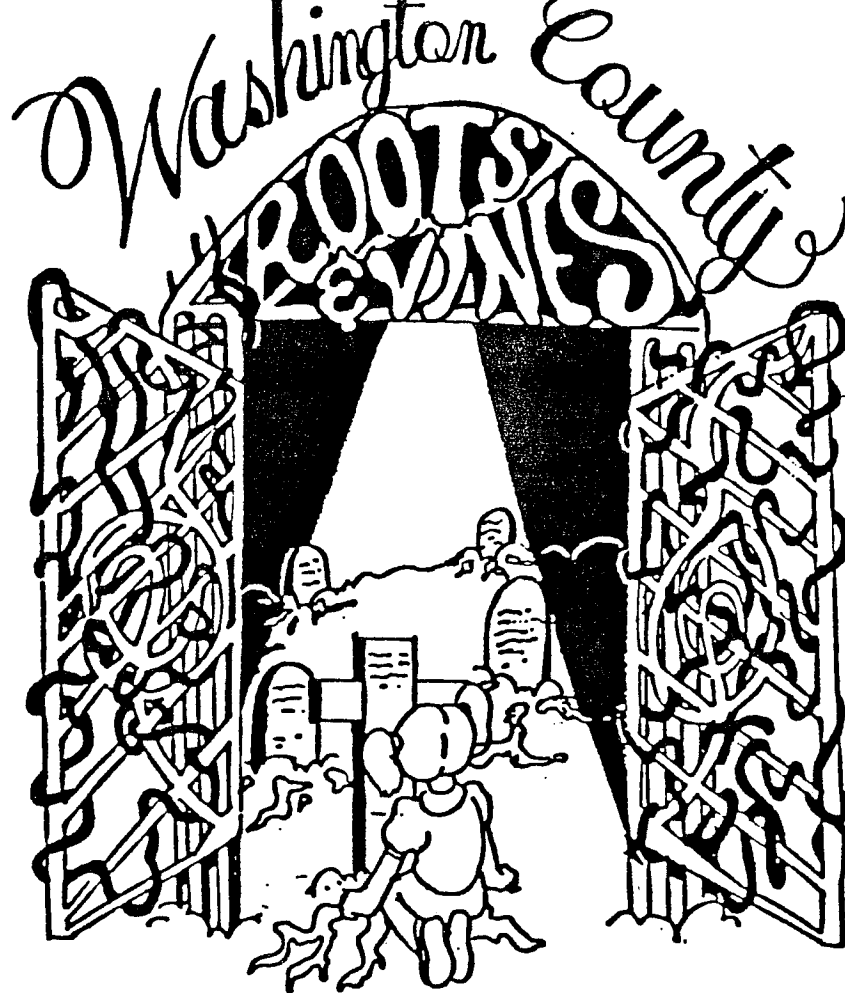
Welcome New Members !

Mr. & Mrs. F.O. Blount, Jr. - 113 Northampton Drive - Hampton, Virginia 23666
Julian & Carolyn S. Phelps - P.O. Box 63 - Windsor, N.C. 27983
Thomas R. Topping - 1201 Berry Ridge Road - Charlotte, N.C. 28270-1463

Everyone is invited-Monthly meeting of Society-Feb 24, 1991-3pm-Washington Co. Library.

Please send me information on your family line which you would like included in the newsletter. Queries are free to members and non-members and you may send as many as you like. I need more family sheets of the members so others can relate to your line. The Charter Member booklet will be mailed out soon. Please feel free to call me (919-793-5287) or write me at address on front of the newsletter if I can be of any help to you. Would be glad to check my files for info on your family lines.

.....President.....



Membership Dues - \$10.00 each or \$15.00 couples per year. Year begins January 1 through December 31. Anyone joining late in the year will receive a full year's "Washington County Roots & Vines". Newsletter is mailed monthly & Queries are free. List surnames when joining. Make check payable to Washington County Genealogical Society.

Washington County Genealogical Society
Veronica Haskett
101 Bennett Drive
Plymouth, N.C. 2796.

V2-11

BILLY

continued

met his brother and sister. He finally met her on March 4 at the Goodman's house.

"The whole time I was driving over there, I was just picturing in my mind what she would look like," Charles Newton said. "We pulled up in the front yard and she stepped out on the porch and that was it."

They hugged and it was like they had known each other forever.

"I felt close to her," he said. "It was a good meeting."

Ambrose said she remembers going to visit "Billy Boy" after he was adopted, but eventually his new mom asked the brothers and sisters to stop visiting, because Billy's name had been changed and the visits were confusing him.

"I used to go out a couple times a week to see him because I thought he was part mine," Ambrose said. "I just sort of took care of him all the time."

"I went out there one day and they had moved, they were gone, the house was empty, and I was shocked. Needless to say, I was very upset about it."

Ambrose said she went to the local doctor's office to find out where the Newtons had moved and was told by the physician that he thought the family had moved to Mrs. Newton's hometown of Franklin, Va. Instead, they had moved to Portsmouth.

She said she believes the doctor was somehow involved with the adoption, but the family never learned the full story.

A gentle, soft-spoken woman whose youthful looks defy her age, Ambrose's eyes glitter when she talks about her "baby brother."

"When I talked to him for the first time on the phone, I thought, 'My goodness, he has more of a Southern accent than we have.' He has a Virginia Southern accent," she said. "I love to hear him talk, I really do."

"And the more we talked, the more I thought, 'That's my brother.' He just talks the way I knew he would if I ever found him. He calls me a lot now and he'll say, 'Hello, Sis, this is Billy Boy.' That's the sweetest music to my ears, I'll tell ya!"

Charles Newton said he will probably have to fly to California if he is to meet his sister, Louise, 69, who named one of her four sons, "Billy," after him. Newton has talked with each of her sons.

"I talked with them the night we had my birthday party," he said. "They were having a cookout and my sister told them we were having a get-together here."

The get-together was really a big birthday bash, held the weekend after Newton's 62nd birthday on Aug. 9. It was a celebration to introduce Newton's new family to his old family and friends. About 40 people attended.

In the middle of the party, H.A. Goodman, a man of very few words due to his ailing health, stood up to make a speech, much to everyone's surprise. He spoke slowly, steadily and deliberately, concentrating on each word.

"My name is Hardy Augustar Goodman, and it sure is nice to find my brother after 60 years. Everyone I talk to tells me he is really a good man. We're glad we found him and we love him."

Submitted by :

Bettie Dall

1. To bring Charles Newton / Billy Goodman up to date - anyone having any info on the family of Herman Butler Goodman & Margaret Hassell - please contact :
Bettie Dall - P.O. Box 414
Columbia, N.C. 27928

2. Need info on Pheonie Connelia

Baker (B) ca 1892 - Gates Co., N.C.

(m) 3 Jan 1909 - Gates Co. to Clyde

Vernon Harrell (D) 17 Feb 1918 -

Elizabeth City, N.C. (Bur) Harrell

Family Cemetery in Columbia, N.C. - Her parents were John &

Perry Baker. Need brothers, sisters, and information on

John & Perry Baker family. Please contact :

Bettie Dall - P.O. Box 414 - Columbia, N.C. 27928

3. Need the parents of Ann Elizabeth Davenport (B) 12 April 1823

(D) 21 Nov 1843. (m) Cleophus William Swain - Children were :

Joseph, John, Rufus, Edward, C.W. Jr., Peter, Ann, Drew

Piney, Laura, and Sarah. Please contact :

Margie Mealon - 7026 Dickerson Road - Cumming, Georgia 30130

4. Need parents of Cleophus W. Swain (Born) January 12, 1821

(Died) July 11, 1898

Need info on William James Pairone

Need info on W.J. Smith - Last known whereabouts was Dec 13,

1901 - Birmingham, Alabama - For info on #4, please contact :

Jo DeBusschere - 17745 Koogler - Mt. Clemens, Michigan 48044

5. Seeking any info on Willis Cherry (B) ca 1805 - Beaufort Co., NC

(D) after 1880 - Beaufort Co., NC - his wife Emily Perry (Born)

19 Dec 1818 - Beaufort Co., NC & (D) after 1880 - Beaufort Co., NC.

Was Emily Perry's father William C. Perry? mother, Nancy L. Walker?

Willis & Emily had 13 known children. A daughter, Susan A. Cherry

(B) ca 1847 (D) 15 Feb 1917, both in Beaufort Co., NC (m) ca 1865

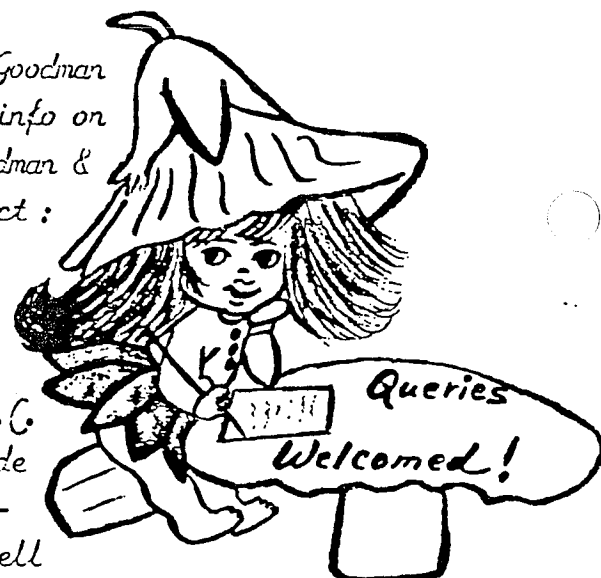
my great-great-grandfather, Robert R. Clark. Please contact :

Donald R. Clark - P.O. Box 351 - Lockport, Illinois 60441-0351

Son at college writing father : "No mon, no fun, your son."

Father's answer : "How sad, too bad, your Dad."

The New Speaker's Treasury of Wit & Wisdom by Herbert V. Prochnow





After discovering he was adopted, Charles Newton Jr., left, is getting to know his newfound sister, Dot Ambrose of Delaware, and brother, H.A. Goodman of Deep Creek.

Photo by DOUGLAS E. MURINE

I feel like they were the unfortunate ones because they had lost a brother for 60 years. I'm the one that was lost and didn't even know it!!!

Charles Newton,
on his newly found family

Ironically, Newton discovered later that his biological mother had moved to Norfolk and had lived there for quite a while before her death in 1963.

"And as many times as I've been to Norfolk, I had known (of the adoption), there wouldn't have been anything that would have kept me away from her front door," said a determined Newton.

Filed with anticipation, Newton urged his wife to call his brother, H.A. Goodman, in Deep Creek. She was to be the "ice-breaker," so-to-speak, before the two brothers talked. Stella Newton remembers her husband saying, "Go ahead, call, call, call, and see if you can locate my brother."

As luck would have it, the line was busy for quite awhile. When Stella Newton finally got through at 11:30 p.m., H.A.'s wife, Willie Mae Goodman, initially thought it was a wrong number. "I believe your husband is my husband's brother," Stella Newton finally said to H.A.'s wife.

"You're Billy's wife? You mean we've

found Billy? Really?" she replied. "For 60 years, we've been wondering what happened to Billy."

The two sisters-in-law planned a reunion for the two brothers the following day, Super Bowl Sunday. Because the older brother is in poor health, the Newtons visited his home in Deep Creek.

"It was a real exciting time," Stella Newton said. They looked at old photographs of the family and many of Newton's questions about the family were answered.

Newton discovered that his birth father was a carpenter and had died of spinal meningitis when he was only 34. After seeing a photograph of his birth mother, Newton concluded he inherited the gap between his teeth from her. He started to identify other family resemblances that he never shared with his adopted family.

"I'd often made the statement that I'd met all my relatives and I didn't know who in the world I looked like," he said.

Said Stella Newton, "I used to tell him that I believed they got the babies mixed up in the hospital."

As the pieces unraveled, Charles Newton learned that his birth family was split up in 1930. Dot, the oldest sibling at age 15, was sent to live with a family in Plymouth; Hardy Augustar, called H.A., age 12, lived with a family on a farm about 10 miles away; and Louise, 9, and Herman Jr., 7, lived in an orphanage in Oxford, N.C.

Stella Newton said her husband seems to have much in common with his oldest sibling, Dot Ambrose, now 75, of Fenwick Island, Del.

They both have an intense fear of snakes, a similarity that was discovered quite by accident. Newton was visiting his sister at her home, watching television, when a show depicting snakes came on.

"I turned around to hide my head because I can't even stand to look at them," Ambrose said. "I looked at him and he was doing the same thing!"

Brother and sister also enjoy dancing, traveling and having fun, said Stella Newton.

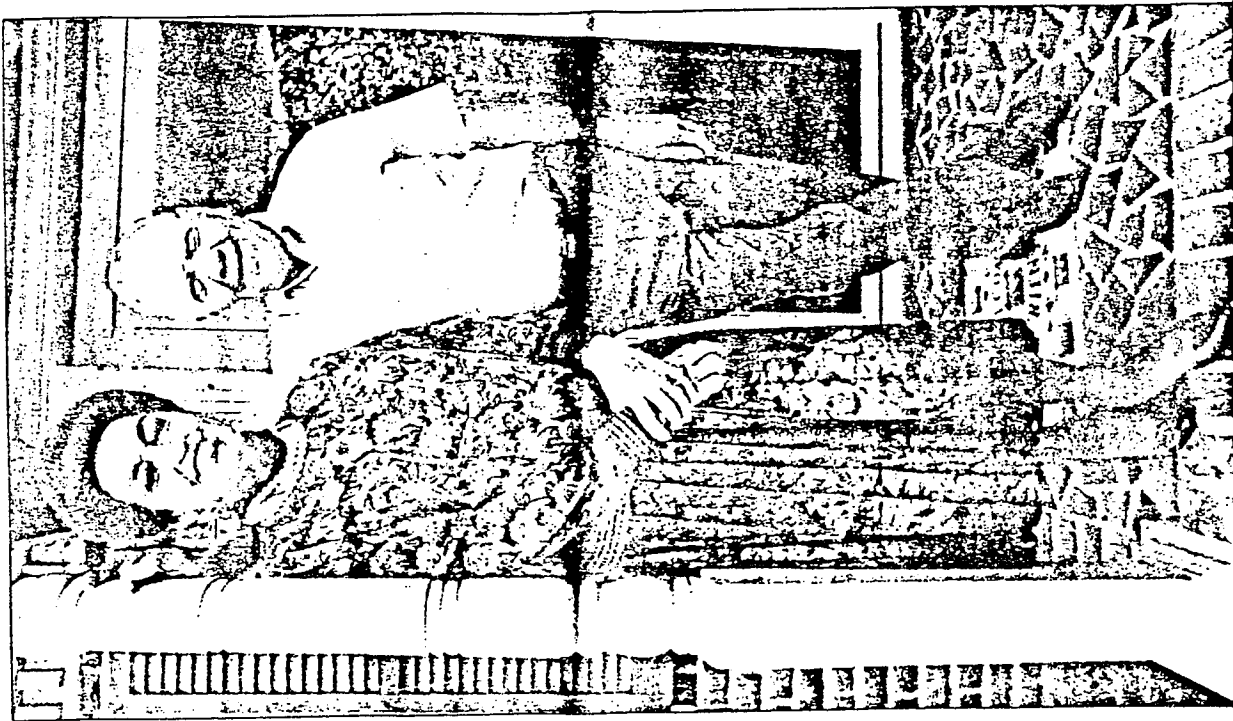
"His sister Dot and her family are party people and that's what we are, party people," she said. "We like a lot of excitement."

In anticipation of meeting Ambrose, Newton said he thought so much about it that he would go to bed at night with his "head just full of thoughts." There was about a six-week lag between the time he

Please see BILLY



Newton's adoptive sister, Virginia Bryson, had promised her parents she would keep his adoption secret. But she told Newton when he needed his birth certificate.



Charles Newton Jr. "red" when he discovered he was adopted, says his wife, Stella.
Photo by DOUGLAS E. MAUNE

NEW TO THE FAMILY

Charles Newton Jr. has a new addition to his family — two sisters and a brother. For six decades, the Park Manor resident didn't know they existed, and didn't know he had been given up for adoption at age 2½. But, at age 61, "Billy Boy" came back home after a birth search for a birth certificate and the revelation of a family secret.

By Rebecca A. Myers
Correspondent

FOR NEARLY 62 YEARS, Charles Wrey Newton Jr. was really William Daniel Goodman and never knew it. All his life, Newton had two older sisters and two older brothers who remembered him as "Billy Boy," and he never knew it.

For nearly 40 years, Newton lived within 10 miles of his oldest brother and, again, he never knew it.

But he knows now, and he's happy. Last January, Newton discovered he was adopted, and soon afterward, he was reunited with his oldest brother and sister. He has yet to meet a sister who lives in California, although he has talked to her on the phone. His other brother is deceased.

"I feel like they were the unfortunate ones because they had lost a brother for 60 years," Newton said. "I'm the one that was lost and didn't even know it."

An easy-going, cheerful man, Newton, 62, is as excited about his new siblings as a child would be with a newborn brother or sister. The only difference is Newton is the baby of this family, acquiring three siblings all older than he.

It all started in December when Newton, a Park Manor resident, needed a birth certificate for his part-time job at Norfolk Naval Shipyard. Although he had retired from the shipyard after 34 years and had returned six years ago to work part-time, he was asked to bring in the birth certificate for security reasons before returning to work after the holidays.

Not knowing where his birth certificate



Newton's natural mother gave him up for adoption at age 2½. After his father died, she couldn't care for all the children during the Depression.

'BILLY BOY' IS BACK

Adopted son finds his family after 60 years

Mrs. Charles W. Newton, could have no more children, they adopted "Billy Boy."

STILL in need of a birth certificate, the Newtons called Plymouth again after discovering that Newton had been adopted. They were told to contact officials in Raleigh because the paperwork for all adoptions was kept there.

But because Newton was never legally adopted, there was no record of his adoption in Raleigh, and therefore, no birth certificate.

Newton turned to his cousin, a judge in North Carolina, for advice. He suggested that Newton contact Plymouth again and search for a birth record under his birth name and birthdate.

"We called Plymouth again, and they had a William Daniel Goodman born on that day," Stella Newton said. They waited no time going to Plymouth to pick up the birth certificate.

"When we walked in the door, they knew who we were," Stella Newton recalled. What Newton didn't realize at the time was, legally, he was still a Goodman. A few weeks later, he hired a lawyer to change his name.

The birth certificate showed the names of Newton's biological mother and father, their occupations and the counties they were from. It also showed that Newton was the fifth child born to these parents.

They asked if there was any information on the siblings, and a computer check showed the name of a sister, Louise, but nothing else.

As a last resort, the Newtons were given the names of some older Plymouth residents who might have some knowledge or remembrance of the Goodman family. They were also given the name of a store outside of town that was thought to be owned by a Goodman.

Unfortunately, the initial talks with residents yielded no clues, so the Newtons decided to visit the store.

It was Tuesday when the Newtons told their story to the store's owner, Wallace Craddock. Little did they know that with the help of Craddock, they would know the names and whereabouts of each of Newton's siblings on Saturday less than a week later.

Craddock did a little investigating and discovered that Newton had a cousin named Laura Wood whose father was a brother to Newton's father. He called Stella Newton on Friday night with Wood's phone number.

Stella Newton called Wood the next day and found out the names of all Newton's sisters and brothers. But Wood said she didn't know where any of them lived.

That evening, Stella Newton called Craddock back to give him the names of the siblings. He returned her call later that night with news of their whereabouts.

He told her that Newton had a sister in Delaware who was currently vacationing in Florida and a sister in California.

"And list is," Stella Newton recalled him saying. "Your husband has a brother in De."



Louise Greene, Newton's sibling, lives in California.

was, Newton contacted his sister, Virginia Bryson of Westhaven. Since Bryson was 12 years older than he, Newton asked if she might have his birth certificate. She said she didn't.

So Newton and his wife wrote to officials in Plymouth, N.C., where he was born, for a copy of the birth certificate. They were told that there was no record of his birth.

Confused, Newton began to question Bryson about the circumstances of his birth. Was he born in a hospital or in a home? Did she have a copy of her own birth certificate? How could there be no record of his birth on Aug. 9, 1928, in Plymouth, N.C.?

On New Year's Day 1990, an emotional Bryson told her brother that he was "chosen," that he was not born a "Newton," that he was adopted. She had promised her parents, now deceased, that she would always keep the adoption secret.

"Well, he was floored. He was literally floored," said Newton's wife of 43 years, Stella Newton. "He couldn't understand it. He didn't know what to say."

Charles Newton said his adoptive parents were always kind, good people, and he never had any idea he had any other family.

Stella Newton said her husband asked his sister if she knew who he was, who he was born as.

Bryson told Newton that he was called "Billy" and that he was 24 years old when they adopted him. His father had died at a young age, and his mother couldn't take care of all the children alone during the Depression.

Bryson said there was an older sister about her own age who was called "Dot" or "Dot." She said there was also an older brother who was known by his initials, though she couldn't remember what the letters were. She remembered that their last name was "Goodman."

She said that she thought some of the children had been put in a Masonic Home, but that Newton was too young for an orphanage.

Because Bryson's parents, Mr. and

colonel while there, but there were no papers in the suitcase that described his two-year prison life. It could be assumed he went home to Plymouth after his July 24, 1865, discharge. Possibly, he married then; an 1870 census lists him as 28 and his wife, Margaret S., with one dwelling, in Plymouth.

**He was shot in the
face and chin
June 1, 1863.**

Such of the poetry in his journal is light, but some is touching. In February 1867, he penned two sad poems while at the University of Maryland medical school.

One poem in particular sums up the camaraderie of Lewis and old friends who called their University of Maryland living quarters the "Rebel's Roost."

*Rebel's Roost, after the Departure
of the Roosters
The Roost is deserted and sad and
forlorn/
Is the look which it wears, its
inmates are gone/
Quiet and silence are now reigning
where/
Voices of merriment once vibrated
the air./*



Confederate troops marching toward Gettysburg, illustrated during the march by Allen C. Redwood.

Illustration from Civil War Art, courtesy of American Heritage Publishing Company, New York

*Bare are the walls and deserted the
hearth/
Hushed are the sounds of music
and mirth/
No longer are heard the clear,
ringing notes/
Swelling out on the air from laugh-
ing throats/
The once exorcised ghost has re-
turned to his lair/
And thinks of his earth love, of the
heartbreaking care/
Which drove him to seek in the
realm of Unknown/*

*Surcease from the sorrow which by
him was borne/
Our five are disbanded; "mustered
out, mustered out,"/
But that each will remember we'll
have not a doubt/
Our friendly relations—which
never before/
Since Damon and Pythias—heroes
of yore/
Was and will be more ardent, more
grand and sublime/
Unchanging by absence, unyielding
to time./*

*Farewell to the Roost! Whate'er be
our lot/
Your sheltering walls will ne'er be
forgot/
Our lives within which have been
blessed by a spell/
Which we ne'er can be rid of, fare
thee well, fare thee well.*

In April 13, I checked search-room card files of grave sites collected so many years ago by WPA workers and members of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Four cemeteries still were listed in Plymouth and two at or near Roper, a name written in some of Lewis's books.

At once, I made plans to go to Plymouth, to be where he had been, to find his grave, if possible. A call to Grace Episcopal Church parsonage was answered by Mrs. Fred Fordham, wife of the rector. She said the old church register was there.

Sunday, April 17: U.S. 64 East was not crowded in early morning, and with no time for breakfast, I made it to Grace Episcopal Church by 11 a.m. for the communion service. Mrs. Ed Spruill asked me to sit with her at the service, and it seemed natural to be there in that lovely church, a half-block from the Roanoke River. I went to the parsonage with the Fordhams, and almost at first glance found the handwriting I wanted to see.

Continued

A Confederate doctor returns

Continued

Dr. and Mrs. Henry G. Lewis had witnessed three weddings there, in 1872, 1873 and 1874. I could not find the Lewis marriage or death records there. I read every tombstone, but no Lewis grave was marked at the church. The wind was blowing in small gusts, raising white sandy clouds, as it does in the spring off Albemarle Sound—a beautiful day.

I searched for St. Luke's Episcopal Church cemetery at Roper, a small community a few miles away. I was directed to Mill Run road, on the way to Mackeys Ferry—locations in Lewis's books.

A well-tended cemetery next to the road listed names like Ransom and Owens, but no Lewis.

I drove to Mackeys, on the river, about three miles away. Fishermen were unloading nets, and women were cleaning fish under a shed. Shad and herring were coming in from the sound, down river past the old pilings where the ferry used to be. Here it was that everyone crossed the Roanoke to reach Edenton, farther north, long ago.

There was more to do, and I felt a strange reluctance about leaving. I sat in the sunshine, in that peaceful place, trying to visualize days when families drove carriages a few miles north past Columbia and on to Nag's Head for vacations. It would have been such a day as that one, with flowers everywhere.

Many questions remain unanswered.



This photograph is most likely of Lewis' wife, Margaret.

Lewis knew he was dying when he wrote his will. Consumption was taking his last breaths; his signature made by a trembling hand. After reading his books and

his writings, there is no doubt that he died, not in anger, but in sorrow, powerless to change his fate. He practiced medicine only seven years and died at the age of 38.

Today, there are organizations of men who study and re-enact Civil War battles, to preserve the past. They wear uniforms and make their own bullets for old guns. This search of mine would be my bullet, my shot.

This is not the end. There is no logical conclusion to this compulsion to proceed, but I would like, when I have searched as far as I can go, to stand at Lewis's grave site, to grieve for the senseless loss of all young men in wars.

I am certain there was, indeed, a person in that old suitcase who wanted out. I would like to say to him, "Well, Henry, hello. You are not forgotten." ▲

Would Like to Share

I have collected an extensive set of notes on the (Spruill, Javenport, Patrick, and Abodley) families of Washington and Tyrrell Counties. This includes information acquired through a page-by-page scan of some of the earlier Washington County Deed Books. I have found a great deal of information on family relationships buried in those, such as the example cited in the December 1990 newsletter. I would be happy to share this information with other members by checking for specific names. Also, I plan sometime soon to take all of the past queries from newsletters and check them against my files.

Please contact: Susan Funk -6792 Alloway Pl. - Worthington, Ohio 43085

A Confederate doctor returns

Continued

the minute details and infinitesimal clues that eventually would picture the life of this man, who read Longfellow and had a school teacher who indicated in strong script that various long passages must be memorized. The search for Henry Green Lewis has taken me to the breezy shores of Albemarle Sound and to silent library research rooms, and it isn't quite over.

Fishermen were unloading nets, and women were cleaning fish under a shed.

Records of the newer series of North Carolina Troops is in the genealogy section of the North Carolina State Library. I made a lot of mistakes, and I also found errors—simply because information written down during a war may be unreliable.

There were many Lewises with similar initials, and I went the whole road with all of them. Thinking that he was from



This photograph is most likely of Henry Green Lewis and was found among his books.

Washington, North Carolina, I ran an ad in the Washington Daily News asking for information, but got no answer.

Later, I learned he was from Plymouth

in Washington County. A Sgt. Henry B. Lewis served with the 12th Regiment, and in battle locations his record paralleled Henry G. Lewis. A Henry Gaston

Lewis threw me off the track, too. A William Gaston Lewis distinguished himself in the battle of New Bern. Not my man.

It took a long time and a lot of overtime parking tickets, but one book, *Genealogy of the Lewis Family in America*, a real long shot, accidentally struck gold.

A Henry G. Lewis had married a woman named Mourning Mills in 1767. A cross-check with Tyrrell County records verified they had died in North Carolina.

I cross-referenced, cross-indexed, checked court records and documents and went back to the 18th century, in an attempt to build forward. In my search I brushed against other interesting histories. A volume from the Court of Pleas, Tyrrell County, Volume Two, described a will made by another Henry G. Lewis who left generous amounts of property to three of his children, but the fourth, "if he shall have any legitimate children at that time," was given a small share—a father's dry humor.

This was an indication that the family was in a moderately wealthy class and probably settled in lower Virginia directly after arrival from England.

Pretty dry stuff, hour after hour, but there were many important small finds, and each was like a birthday party. From genealogy, I went over to the state library search room. I was still inside, dealing with paper. Lewis's countryside was in my future.

Continued

A Confederate doctor returns

Continued

Lewis, the person, began to emerge, when I found his will and probate documents in the search room. These gave me his middle name, Green, and in shaky handwriting, the same signature that was in his books. On October 8, 1879, he had written that "considering the uncertainty of my earthly existence" his property would be left to his wife, Margaret S. He died January 19, 1880. The will was probated in March and listed no property or heirs.

Using a new cross reference book in genealogy, I trudged around the shelves and files checking out hieroglyphic type symbols like "246 bfr." On March 27, in the 1860 Columbia census on microfilm, success. Dr. Henry E. Lewis, age 50, listed real estate valued at \$4,000 and \$17,000 in personal estate. Family: Emma, 34; Henry, 18, student; Thomas, 14; Frederick, 11; Alfred, 9; Irma, 4/12, (infant) and Joyce Brewer, tutress. From records, it showed that Henry G. Lewis definitely was a third-generation physician.

The Health Science Historical Collection at the University of Maryland confirmed by telephone that he had graduated there, in the College of Physicians and

Surgeons, after the war. One of his poems, "The Five of Ours," about his war companions, was written while there. The smallest book in the old suitcase had no title but contained 19 pages of what appears to be entirely original poetry.

Many pages were slashed and completely removed. In the first part of the book, he writes happily, dedicating a Valentine, and there are two poems written as acrostics, in which the first letter of each line is part of a girl's name. They are May Morrison and Maggie Chesson.

The last three poems show his change from a resilient young man to one saddened by war and the loss of friends.

Documents and the North Carolina Troops series relate his military history in several places. He was shot in the face and chin June 1, 1863. Four days later, he was captured in a Gettysburg hospital. He was sent to a Union prisoner of war camp on Johnson's Island, Ohio, August 2, 1863. He remained there in the Union camp until March, 1865, and finally was released at Fort Delaware July 24, 1865. How simple the words sound, but how terrible was the actuality.

Lewis and several close friends had enlisted May 19, 1861, at Plymouth. During early stages of organizing the regiment, the company titles changed several times, but the members of Com-

pany A each went on to command other units. This was a time of great tensions. War was new. Company A included many sharpshooters who were raised in the Columbia-Plymouth countryside where hunting was a sport. Throughout the fighting, this company was used particularly for their specialty.

The last three poems show his change from a resilient young man to one saddened by war and the loss of friends.

Skirmishes took place in North Carolina, at New Bern and Washington, and at Winton, upstream on the Chowan River, where they were beaten back by Union gunboats. After more than a year of engagements with the enemy, they settled at Drewry's Bluff near Richmond.

This was a war of men who fought on foot, sometimes with the aid of cavalry, but with weapons that dealt stunning blows.

The old smooth-bore muskets seldom could hit anything at a range of 100 or

more yards, but the new rifle-barreled musket could kill at 250 yards. Cannons and the other weapons were changed and "improved" as war intensified, and the casualty lists were terrible. More than 600,000 men, Union and Rebel, were killed in this war. About two out of nine survived, and troops were plagued by dysentery, typhoid and pneumonia. In one battle alone, more than 50,000 troops died, almost as many as in the entire Vietnam war.

Lewis's group was well-trained. They marched on foot and met the enemy eye-to-eye. Shelled by Union guns, Rebels piled up in the fields. Soldiers' groans filled the air, and the psychological shock was incredible. In this setting, the 32nd Regiment, with Lewis now a major, headed toward Gettysburg. Confederate Brig. Gen. Junius Daniel's men were stationed to the left of the 32nd, at the edge of the city near a stone barn. It was at this engagement that Lewis was shot.

It was a horrible injury. A book, *Doctors in Gray*, by Horace H. Cunningham, concerning the Confederate medical service, describes the desperate need for dentists and surgeons to repair wounds to the chin and mouth. As Lewis was captured just four days after his injury, it was a painful journey to Johnson's Island, Ohio, at Sandusky Bay directly on Lake Erie, where winds were violent and temperatures often below zero.

Lewis was promoted to lieutenant-

Continued

A \$5 suitcase full of books in a junk store yielded the diary of a Civil War soldier, at the forefront of the table.



Photo by Alan Doherty

By Lee Wilder

A Confederate doctor returns

*Searching for Henry Green Lewis:
poet, soldier, doctor*

A Confederate officer named Henry Green Lewis came into my life about 20 years ago, but it was not obvious at the time.

The original attraction was a small green suitcase filled with old books bearing his name, for sale at a small junk shop in Edgecombe County.

For only \$5, a window opened, framing turbulent years of the Civil War as they affected a young man born in the beautiful country near where the Chowan and Roanoke rivers mingle in Albemarle Sound.

Through several moves and years, the suitcase held intact; until last fall. It was the rainy day I had promised myself. I felt an intense excitement, a compulsion to read and examine every page of the small journal in Lewis's handwriting.

The feeling was electric, almost eerie, as I learned his personal thoughts, read marked passages in Lewis family books dating from 1812 and found that most of them opened automatically at certain chapters.

All I really knew was his name and that he was in Company A, 32nd Regiment, North Carolina Troops, a starting point for my exploration that often became confusing and led to many dead ends.

His story called out for research and verification, but I was not prepared for

Continued

Submitted by : Tillie Pore

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Land Grants - Submitted by : Doris Sauls (to be continued)

Name Davenport, Frederic Senr. File No. 26
County Washington Acres 103
Grant 25 Issued 30 November 1809
Entry No. 70 Entered 18 March 1809
Book No. 124 Page No. 313
Location Jesse Hatfield, Charles Norman, Isaac
Norman, Batchelor John Norman, County line
Chain Carriers William Davenport, Uriah Davenport

Name Davenport, Isaac Junr. File No. 28
County Washington Acres 24
Grant 27 Issued 24 November 1813
Entry No. 85 Entered 27 September 1813
Book No. 127 Page No. 543
Location Nathan Norman, Richard Frasier, Eleazer
Swain, Glade Swp, Major Nathaniel Allen
Chain Carriers George Peed, Joshua Jones

Name Hamilton, James File No. 30
County Washington Acres 25
Grant 29 Issued 28 November 1814
Entry No. 96 Entered 24 September 1814
Book No. 128 Page No. 403
Location John Guither, Road Plymouth to Washington,
Long Ridge
Chain Carriers David Hardison, Ashley Davis

Name Smith, Harris File No. 32
County Washington Acres 244
Grant 31 Issued 24 November 1815
Entry No. 125 Entered 18 September 1815
Book No. 129 Page No. 262
Location Long Br, Deep run, Swan Bay Pocosin,
Samuel Wiggins
Chain Carriers Edmund Stubbs, Robt Latham

Name Davenport, Ephraim File No. 34
County Washington Acres 50
Grant 33 Issued 28 December 1816
Entry No. 5 Entered 5 May 1800
Book No. 131 Page No. 103
Location Mark Poplar Swp, William Long, John Snell
Chain Carriers Silas Snell, Malichi Hare

Name Swain, Eleazer File No. 27
County Washington Acres 25
Grant 26 Issued 2 April 1813
Entry No. 86 Entered 3 August 1812
Book No. 127 Page No. 328
Location Blount, Nathan Norman, Charles Skittle-
tharpe, Lemuel Swain, Major Nathaniel Allen
Chain Carriers Joshua Jones, George Peed

Name Hamilton, James File No. 29
County Washington Acres 25
Grant 28 Issued 28 November 1814
Entry No. 95 Entered 24 September 1814
Book No. 128 Page No. 403
Location Joseph Garrett, Long Ridge, Road Ply-
mouth to Washington
Chain Carriers David Hardison, Ashley Davis

Name Blount, James File No. 31
County Washington Acres 20
Grant 30 Issued 26 December 1814
Entry No. 89 Entered 24 September 1814
Book No. 129 Page No. 163
Location Conobe Creek, Miery Br, Gordon Hawkins,
Elizabeth Blount, Henry Harramond
Chain Carriers Aron Fagan, John Whedby

Name Reditt, William & Miles File No. 33
County Washington Acres 49
Grant 32 Issued 22 November 1816
Entry No. 129 Entered 1 March 1810
Book No. 130 Page No. 195
Location Hues Swp, Joseph Evret, Weeb
Chain Carriers Robert Evret, Richard Evret

Name Davenport, Ephraim File No. 35
County Washington Acres 36
Grant 34 Issued 28 December 1816
Entry No. 110 Entered 5 September 1815
Book No. 131 Page No. 103
Location John Swain, Josiah Collins, Gum Swp
Chain Carriers Silas Snell, Malichi Hare

Note From Editor

As we are beginning a New Year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the Washington County Genealogical Society members who graciously shared information with me which has been such an important part of our newsletter.

All of 1990 members will be listed in the Surname Information. This will be mailed as soon as it is completed. I will include the new members for 1991 in the monthly newsletter.

"Your" sharing and working together is what makes a good Society. Let's make ours one to be proud of. Again, thanks for your continuing support.

Happy New Year to you and yours. Good health and much wealth!

Welcome - New Members - (January 1991)

Ella Mae Davenport - 1216 Wilson Street Ext. - Plymouth, N.C. 27962

Marion Everett - Route 2, Box 132-D, Ivon, Virginia 23866

Crestena Oakley - Route 4, Box 58-2, Greenville, N.C. 27834

Josephine Ross - Route 1, Box 263 - Bath, N.C. 27808

O.B. Perry - Virginia

Jo DeBusschere - 17745 Koogler - Mt. Clemens, Michigan 48044

Carol L. Vidales - 7905 Sutcliffe Road - Raleigh, N.C. 27613-3822

Harrison W. Phelps - Route 1, Box 293 - Plymouth, N.C. 27962

Louise A. Norman - P.O. Box 754 - Plymouth, N.C. 27962

Ship-Building In Washington

by : Sylvia Whitford

Washington, N.C. was founded in 1770 and ten years later was the home of a budding ship-building industry that was to grow to be the largest in the state. By 1850 there were twenty three ship carpenters listed in the census.

The blockade by the United States Navy during the Civil War hurt the ship building industry because all northern markets rapidly disappeared.

With the occupation of Washington by the Union Army in 1862, all ship building ceased. After the war, the building of wooden ships declined nationwide and the industry never recovered. In the 1870 Census, only five ship carpenters were listed in the town.

Washington County Genealogical Society Meeting

Our monthly society meeting will be on Sunday, January 27th in the Washington County Library at 3:00pm. Everyone is invited to attend. We always meet on the last Sunday of the month. It's time to get busy on the Cemetery Survey. If anyone has any cemetery information which hasn't been turned in, please do so - so we won't be working ones which have already been done. Thanks ... President ...